

EXHIBIT C

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November 21, 1997

VIA COURIER

Mr. Larry Burton
815 Cottonwood Drive
Desoto, Texas 75115

Re: Patent Application for "DOWNCOMER FOR CHEMICAL PROCESS TOWER"
Our File No. 27771-00210

Dear Larry:

Enclosed is a copy of the originally filed application, a Preliminary Amendment, and a Declaration and Power of Attorney.

The Preliminary Amendment cancels original claims 1 - 4 and 9 - 12, which were determined to be directed to the trays for a tower that was sold to a Korean company. It was determined that original claims 5 - 8 and 9 - 12 and new claims 17 - 34 did not read on the trays for the Korean job. Original claims 5 - 8 are directed to an apparatus using a downcomer with a discharge plate, and original claims 13 - 16 are directed to a method of using a downcomer having a discharge plate.

New claims 17 - 22 are directed to a downcomer below a multi-chordal outlet weir, the downcomer being choked near the center region. New claims 23 - 29 are directed to a downcomer below an arcuate shaped outlet weir (such as semi-circular), the downcomer being choked near the center region. New claims 30 - 34 are directed to a downcomer with a discharge plate, the apertures in the discharge plate being such that more liquid is discharged at the edged regions of the downcomer than the center region.

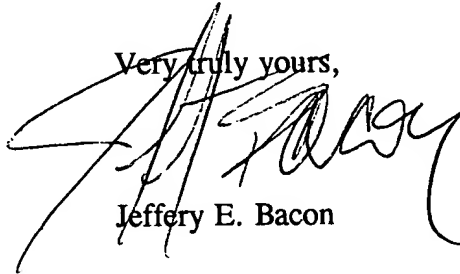
Due to a change in the law, we will need to file a declaration for this application by **December 1, 1997**. Therefore, if this amendment concurs with your understanding of the invention and how the application should be amended to avoid the Korean tower, please sign and return the

Mr. Adam Lee
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enclosed declaration at your earliest convenience. If there are additional modifications required to the application, please call Stan Moore or me to make those changes.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffery E. Bacon", written over the typed name.

Jeffery E. Bacon

JEB:cw
Enclosures